County Facts: Mercer County, KY
Population 22,000

The Local Economy

- Unemployment rate: 4.9% (Mercer County), 4.9% (KY), 4.4% (United States)
- Poverty rate: 15.1% (Mercer County), 14.2% (KY), 14.2% (United States)
- Median family income (000s): $54 (Mercer County), $46 (KY), $46 (United States)
- Population growth 2000-2017: 10% (Mercer County), 3% (KY), 3% (United States)
- Manufacturing share of workforce: 15% (Mercer County), 15% (KY), 15% (United States)
- Farming share of workforce: 14% (Mercer County), 14% (KY), 14% (United States)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (pp): 4.8% (Mercer County), 4.7% (KY), 4.7% (United States)

How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

- Percent graduating any college: 40% (Mercer County), 43% (KY), 46% (United States)
- Percent reaching upper-middle class: 17% (Mercer County), 15% (KY), 15% (United States)
- Percent achieving American Dream: 7% (Mercer County), 7% (KY), 7% (United States)
- Percent giving birth as a teen: 10% (Mercer County), 3% (KY), 3% (United States)
- Percent landing in jail: 20% (Mercer County), 1.4% (KY), 1.5% (United States)
- Local school expenditure per student (000s): $5.5 (Mercer County), $5.5 (KY), $6.4 (United States)
Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Centre College Of Kentucky†</th>
<th>Kentucky 4-year-college average</th>
<th>U.S. 4-year-college average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-income share</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of students</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td>Low-income student</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
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<td>success rate</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-income share</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>28.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>of students</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*: Data refers to the full college system, not just this campus. †: In nearby county

Local Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mercer County</th>
<th>KY</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Black</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Hispanic</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent over age 65</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent college grad</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Definitions and Sources

The Local Economy
- Unemployment rate (August 2018, BLS)
- Poverty rate (2012-2016 ACS)
- Median family income (2016 ACS)
- Manufacturing share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Farming share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (BLS LAUS)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out
- Percent graduating any college (2-yr or 4-yr, Tax Data 2, N/A for some counties)
- Percent reaching upper middle-class (top 20% of the U.S. income distribution, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent achieving American Dream (share of local low-income kids—i.e. those with 25th-income-percentile parents—who reach the top 20% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent (of local female kids) giving birth as a teen (Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent landing in jail (percent of local kids in jail on 1 April 2010, Tax Data 1 and 2010 Census, N/A for some counties)
- Local school expenditure per student (in public schools, NCES, N/A for some counties)

Local Colleges and Upward Mobility
- Low-income share of students (share of age-18-22 students with bottom-20% parents, Tax Data 2)
- Low-income student success rate (share of low-income age-18-22 students who reach the top 40% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 2)

Local Demographics
- Percent Black (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent Hispanic (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent over age 65 (2010 Census)
- Percent college grad (4-yr college, 2012-2016 ACS)
- Crime rate (serious violent and property arrests per 10,000 residents, FBI Uniform Crime Reports, N/A for some counties)
- Life expectancy (at age 40, Tax Data 3, N/A for some counties)
- Opioid deaths (per 10,000 residents in 2017, CDC, N/A for some counties and some counties report population weighted commuting zone average)

Sources Legend
- ACS: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Surveys, 2012-2016
- CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database.
- Census: U.S. Census Bureau